REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 14, 2006. Claims 12, 14, 15, 27, 29, 30, 42, 44 and 45 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 12, 27 and 42 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 12, 14, 15, 27, 29, 30, 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,917,722 (Bloomfield). The rejections are respectfully traversed and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in light of the following comments.

The present invention concerns controlling direction of an image pickup device (e.g., a camera) to obtain an image from which an electronic address (e.g., a URL or an e-mail address) can be accessed. According to the invention, a control command input by a user is output to mechanically control the direction of the image input device. Then, an image obtained by the image input device in accordance with the control command is received and analyzed to determine whether or not it includes a predetermined image. If so, then an address is extracted corresponding to the predetermined image and the address is accessed if a user performs a process to designate the predetermined image.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 12 is a system for accessing an address, comprising an operation device that outputs a control command input by a user to mechanically control an image pickup direction of an image pickup device for the image pickup device to obtain an image, a receiving device that receives an image obtained by the image pickup device which is controlled based on the control command of the direction of the image pickup device, a monitoring device that determines whether the image received by the receiving device includes a predetermined

- 6 -

image, an extracting device that extracts an address corresponding to the predetermined image when the monitoring device determines that the predetermined image is included in the image received by the receiving device, and an accessing device that accesses the address extracted by the extracting device corresponding to the predetermined image when the monitoring device determines that the received image includes the predetermined image and if a user performs an operation to designate the predetermined image.

Amended independent Claims 27 and 42 are method and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 12.

The applied art of Bloomfield is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 12, 27 and 42, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of outputting a control command, input by a user to mechanically control an image pickup direction of an image pickup device for the image pickup device to obtain an image, determining whether an image received from the image pickup device, controlled in accordance with the control command, includes a predetermined image, and if so, accessing an extracted address corresponding to the predetermined image if the received image includes the predetermined image and if a user performs an operation to designate the predetermined image.

Bloomfield relates to scanning a URL using a LinkPen, whereby, when the pen scans the URL, a webpage corresponding to the URL is accessed and displayed on a browser. The LinkPen of Bloomfield scans in the text, uses OCR processing to process the scanned image in order to obtain the URL, and then accesses the URL. In contrast, the invention outputs a control command input by a user to mechanically control an image pickup direction of an image pickup device for the image pickup device to obtain an image. Then, the image obtained by the pickup device is received by an information processing

- 7 -

apparatus that analyzes the image to determine whether or not it is a predetermined image, and if so, an address corresponding to the predetermined image is extracted and accessed. Bloomfield is simply different from the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

In the event that the rejections are not withdraw, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative to arrange for an interview to the discuss the rejections.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant
Edward A. Kmett
Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 115448v1

- 8 -